Turning Points in Russia, 1914—1921

1914

August World War I begins.

1917

March

Revolution forces the czar to abdicate. A provisional government is formed.

April

Lenin returns to Russia.

July

Russians suffer more than 50,000 casualties in battle against German and Austro-Hungarian forces.

November

A second revolution results in Bolshevik takeover of government.

December

Bolshevik government seeks peace with Germany.

1918

March

Russia signs treaty of Brest-Litovsk, losing a large amount of territory.

July

Civil war between the Reds and Whites begins. The czar and his family are executed.

August

British, American, Japanese, and other foreign forces intervene in Russia.

1921

March

Communist government is victorious. Only sporadic fighting continues.